



NewsLEADER

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

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NewsLEADER

The DHSS CLPPP newsletter now has a name thanks to **Leisa Wear, RN** at Shelby County Health Department. When I called to congratulate her, Leisa was excited. "I am very pleased and honored and speechless," she said. Leisa mentioned that her idea came very easily to her. NewsLEADER was one of many name ideas submitted. Her idea was then one of the top three selected and voted upon again, where it took a majority of the votes to become the new newsletter name. Thank you Leisa for your creativity!

National Lead Week 2002

Thanks to all of you who participated in the "Is Your Family Lead Safe? Give Your Home A Lead Check-Up With Lead Testing Swabs!" campaign. During this statewide campaign lead poisoning prevention advocates were asked to partner with their local hardware stores in promoting lead testing swabs and lead poisoning prevention in their communities. Twenty county health departments participated. Within these 20 counties, 44 hardware stores participated! What a great way to reach people who may not have otherwise been reached. Keep your eyes open for future campaigns. And as always, if you have comments or suggestions for future campaigns, please let Kim Frazee know.



Reporting of Test Results

All blood lead test results are required to be reported to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) regardless of the age of the individual or the reported lead level. This is in accordance with the Reporting Rule 19 CSR 20-20.020. Complete text of the rule may be found on the Missouri Secretary of State's website: www.sos.state.mo.us/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c20-20.pdf

In addition, the following demographic information is required:

- Patient's complete name and home address with zip code
- Patient's age, date of birth, sex, and race
- Attending physician or treatment facility
- Test type (capillary or venous)
- Date sample drawn
- Test result
- Date of analysis
- Date of report
- Name and address of reporter

Providers should assure that the laboratory they are using is reporting to DHSS. Questions regarding reporting of test results should be directed to Patty Osman, DHSS, at (573) 526-0347.

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Managing Elevated Blood Lead Levels Among Young Children: Recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention



This reference book, developed by the advisory committee to the National Center for Environmental Health's Childhood Lead Program, provides information on managing childhood lead poisoning. The reference defines the elements of case management and offers assessment and management guidelines for health departments, case managers, primary care physicians, and other professionals. In addition to the introduction, there are five chapters: Home Environment Investigation and Interventions, Medical Evaluation and Treatment, Nutritional Assessment and Dietary Modification, Developmental Surveillance and Interventions, and Education for Caregivers. Also discussed is the importance of state laws, regulations, and financing related to lead abatement efforts and the provision of appropriate services for affected children. The reference book came out in March 2002.

The full text of the book may be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/CaseManagement/managingEBLLs.pdf>

Vietnamese Publication

The EPA brochure "Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home" is available in Vietnamese. You may order these directly from the EPA clearinghouse at 1-800-424-LEAD. The DHSS warehouse does have some in stock. They are stock number 45. Follow the warehouse literature ordering procedures when ordering these. Please order large quantities directly from EPA.



County in the Spotlight



Barton County Offers Seminars

Barton County Health Department reached their community with two lead poisoning prevention seminars in May. The first seminar targeted an audience ranging from physicians to abatement workers to school district representatives and concerned citizens. The topics covered in the seminar included sources and pathways of lead exposure, the clinical aspects of lead poisoning, disclosure laws, and the role nutrition and hygiene play in preventing lead poisoning. Barton County was pleased to have featured speaker Dr. Gary Wasserman, D.O., Professor of Pediatrics, at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and Chief of Medical Toxicology at the Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. Gary Hastings, Environmental Specialist, and Debbie Sheat, RN, Health Educator, from the Barton County Health Department also spoke.

The second seminar targeted renovation contractors, landlords, and realtors. A representative from the Region 7 Environmental Protection Agency office explained the current, federal lead-based paint disclosure laws. These laws, designed to protect young children from lead poisoning, require that individuals receive certain information before renting, buying, or renovating pre-1978 housing.

Barton County used flyers and print announcements in their local newspapers to advertise their seminars. What a great way to reach a variety of audiences in your community!





Successful Public Outreach: *Setting Goals and Objectives*

It is very hard to change human behavior. Often times it takes years of persistent, sustained efforts to change cultural norms. The right message, delivered to the right people, at a time when they are receptive, is key to initiate change. Health departments across the nation are using public outreach activities to change the health behaviors and knowledge of their communities. Whether it is outreach to wash one's hands more or outreach to increase awareness of lead poisoning, all public outreach activities must have established goals and objectives.

Before an action plan is developed for an outreach program, goals must be established. A goal is the aim of the outreach program. It describes what the program is trying to accomplish. What is it you are trying to achieve? Goals should be simple, concise, and should include who will be affected and what will change as a result of the program.

Objectives are to be established after the goal. The objectives enable the goal to be met. These are specific, measurable statements that are outcome oriented. They measure the change in behavior, attitude, or knowledge that will occur as a result of the outreach. It is important that goals and objectives are set realistically. Setting a goal that you cannot hope to achieve, or even measure, undermines your likelihood for success.

Example of Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:

Goal: To reduce the number of lead poisoning cases in Missouri children under six years old through the primary prevention activity of regular and proper hand washing.

Objectives:

1. Among children attending the program, regular hand washing will increase by 50 percent over the following six months.
2. Students will be able to identify the items needed to correctly wash their hands (water, soap, towel).
3. Students will be able to demonstrate the five steps to proper hand washing (water, soap, scrub, rinse, dry).

The difference between where we are (current status) and where we want to be (goals) is what we do (objectives).



Project CLEAN

The St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition, formed in 1999, is made up of a diverse group of individuals and public and private organizations working together to reduce and eliminate lead exposure in the St. Louis metro area, especially among children. The coalition will be implementing Project CLEAN (Community Lead Education Awareness Network) in the Hyde Park and St. Louis Place neighborhoods. Project CLEAN is a three-part project that will provide: **1)** education to eligible families with children, ages six months to 72 months, and pregnant women who may or may not have lead poisoning. The team will educate families on lead hazards and lead poisoning prevention including proper nutrition and cleaning techniques, while promoting lead screenings where necessary. They encourage families to test eligible children for lead poisoning and promote follow up medical visits to monitor blood levels for lead reduction, **2)** lead inspections, risk assessments, and **3)** specialized cleaning for eligible families as an interim control for lead reduction in their homes and/or environment. For more information about the St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition contact Connie Wilson at 314-664-9922 or visit their web site at www.leadprevention.org.

Leadosaurus Costume

Looking for a fun way to promote lead poisoning prevention? The Leadosaurus character costume may be borrowed from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services by any organization in Missouri wanting to increase lead poisoning prevention awareness and blood lead testing. Leadosaurus is a sure way to attract adults and children at health fairs, schools, and community-wide events. The costume will work best for persons 5'6"-6'0" in height. If you are interested in borrowing the Leadosaurus costume, contact Kim Frazee at 573-526-4911. Please note: The costume comes in a very large crate, 2'4" x 3'8" x 2'5" and weighs 58 pounds; a large vehicle is needed for transporting. The borrower of the costume is responsible for his/her own health. The costume may be heavy and hot at times. It is also advisable to have an assistant safely guide the wearer of the costume, as the large feet may lead to unsteady walking.



Lead Poisoning Vocab To Know:

1. **Risk Assessment:** An on-site investigation to determine the existence, nature, severity, and location of lead hazards, and the provision of a report by the person conducting the risk assessment explaining the results of the investigation and options for reducing lead hazards.
2. **Encapsulation:** A liquid coating or adhesively bonded substance applied to a surface to form a barrier between a lead-bearing substance and the environment.



New Toll-Free Number

The DHSS Lead Program 800 number has been changed. A new number for the whole environmental division is now in service.

The new number is: **866-628-9891**.

New Lead Poisoning Web Site

The DHSS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention program now has a web page! The web page can be accessed from the DHSS home web page under the "Healthy People" link. Or by <http://www.dhss.state.mo.us/ChildhoodLead>. The web site provides information on Missouri laws, lead testing and risk assessment, educational materials, and answers frequently asked questions about childhood lead poisoning.

The **DHSS Lead Manual** is also online. The manual can be found at <http://www.dhss.state.mo.us/Lead/LeadManualTofC.html>

The Next Issue

Tell us what you are doing. If you would like your health department or organization to be featured in the next issue of NewsLEADER, please send your articles to:

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Email frazek@dhss.state.mo.us, phone 573-526-4911, or fax 573-526-6946.